

Carver State Bank on his election as chair of the National Bankers Association.

The National Bankers Association is based in Washington, D.C., and has represented minority-owned and women-owned banks in the U.S. since 1927.

Mr. James wears many hats. He serves Carver State Bank as its director of Strategic Initiatives and is a member of its board of directors; is a partner at the law firm, Golden Holley James, LLP; and is president of Coastal Legacy Group, LLC, which is a real estate development and consulting firm he founded in 2004.

When he was earning his law degree at Harvard, he received a legal training scholarship and was elected president of Harvard Black Law Students Association, as well. By stepping up to the plate to lead the National Bankers Association, he has demonstrated his dedication to serving his community and contributing to the success of the American banking industry as a whole.

Congratulations, again, on this great accomplishment. Mr. Speaker, I wish Mr. James the very best.

ELECTORAL COLLEGE

(Ms. JACKSON LEE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I know that we will be discussing COVID-19, and I cannot stand on this floor without ever mentioning that we must help the American people.

But today I stand on this floor to acknowledge the existence of the Electoral College.

Mr. Speaker, many Americans are unfamiliar with this very interesting fixture in law. Article II, Section 1 of the Constitution gives us the Electoral College. But let me be very clear. In the next couple of days, many States will certify those who have voted. The Electoral College will meet, by the Constitution, on December 14. Most State legislators have indicated that the electors are to vote the popular vote. All of the battleground States have certified that the next President and Vice President of the United States are Joe Biden and KAMALA HARRIS.

What is my plea today?

My plea today is for us to harmoniously join together in recognizing the value of this Constitution, the sanctity of democracy, and to proceed as a House and Senate to embrace this election and the victors.

Why?

Because the Nation needs us, and the Constitution says so.

Mr. Speaker, I look forward to us working together.

CONGRATULATING REPRESENTATIVE MICHAEL CONAWAY ON HIS RETIREMENT

(Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania asked and was given permission to ad-

dress the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to thank, celebrate, and congratulate my friend and colleague, MIKE CONAWAY, who will be leaving us to enjoy his much-deserved retirement.

Mr. Speaker, it has been a tremendous privilege and honor to serve under MIKE's leadership throughout my time on the Committee on Agriculture, and I am grateful to have worked with such a tireless advocate for rural America.

MIKE's leadership on the 2018 farm bill was particularly impressive, which marked the first time in nearly 30 years that a farm bill was enacted in the same year that it was introduced. I continue to be inspired by MIKE's principles in leadership outside of committee work as well. I have been lucky enough to share many Wednesday mornings with him as a brother of faith during Bible study.

Mr. Speaker, I send my very best wishes to MIKE and his wife, Suzanne, who has been kind enough to share him with us for over the last 16 years.

I thank MIKE for his friendship and guidance over the years. He will be sincerely missed.

COVID RELIEF FOR AMERICANS

(Ms. SCANLON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. SCANLON. Mr. Speaker, it has been 257 days since the first major COVID relief package was signed into law—257 days. In that time period, COVID cases in the U.S. have skyrocketed, and we have lost almost 290,000 Americans.

The devastation this virus has wrought on our families, our communities, and our economy is enormous. But it would have been so much worse if we had not provided that early relief to our families, our small businesses, and workers impacted by the spring surge. And economists are clear that we need to provide more direct relief in order to buoy the economy, much less to keep people safe.

The relief that we are seeking, that the American people are seeking is not a handout. It is a lifeline. It is critical to get relief in the hands of families, small businesses, frontline workers, and local governments so we can get the virus under control. But, also, so we can get the country back to work once we do so.

Mr. Speaker, time is of the essence. Unemployment is running out, small businesses—and especially, restaurants—are closing. Families are facing eviction and foreclosure.

Mr. Speaker, fighting this pandemic has been hard enough on the American people. Getting them the relief they need to stay safe and healthy shouldn't be.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on motions to suspend the rules on which the yeas and nays are ordered.

The House will resume proceedings on postponed questions at a later time.

FURTHER CONTINUING APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2021, AND OTHER EXTENSIONS ACT

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 8900) making further continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2021, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 8900

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Further Continuing Appropriations Act, 2021, and Other Extensions Act".

SEC. 2. TABLE OF CONTENTS.

The table of contents of this Act is as follows:

Sec. 1. Short title.

Sec. 2. Table of contents.

Sec. 3. References.

DIVISION A—FURTHER CONTINUING APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2021

DIVISION B—HEALTH EXTENDERS

Title I—Medicare and Medicaid Extenders

Title II—Public Health Extenders and Food and Drug Administration Provisions

Title III—Offsets

Title IV—Budgetary Effects

SEC. 3. REFERENCES.

Except as expressly provided otherwise, any reference to "this Act" contained in any division of this Act shall be treated as referring only to the provisions of that division.

DIVISION A—FURTHER CONTINUING APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2021

SEC. 101. The Continuing Appropriations Act, 2021 (division A of Public Law 116-159) is amended by striking the date specified in section 106(3) and inserting "December 18, 2020".

This division may be cited as the "Further Continuing Appropriations Act, 2021".

DIVISION B—HEALTH EXTENDERS

TITLE I—MEDICARE AND MEDICAID EXTENDERS

SEC. 1101. EXTENSION OF THE WORK GEOGRAPHIC INDEX FLOOR UNDER THE MEDICARE PROGRAM.

Section 1848(e)(1)(E) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395w-4(e)(1)(E)), as amended by section 3801 of the CARES Act (Public Law 116-136) and section 2201 of the Continuing Appropriations Act, 2021 and Other Extensions Act (Public Law 116-159), is amended by striking "December 12, 2020" and inserting "December 19, 2020".

SEC. 1102. EXTENSION OF FUNDING OUTREACH AND ASSISTANCE FOR LOW-INCOME PROGRAMS.

(a) STATE HEALTH INSURANCE PROGRAMS.—Subsection (a)(1)(B)(xi) of section 119 of the Medicare Improvements for Patients and Providers Act of 2008 (42 U.S.C. 1395b-3 note), as amended by section 3306 of the Patient